

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 26, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

**House Resolution**

**No. 45**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Dababneh**

June 10, 2014

House Resolution No. 45—Relative to the California-Ukraine National Guard Partnership.

1     *WHEREAS, The Californian National Guard is the largest and*  
2     *most frequently deployed National Guard force in the United States*  
3     *with a total authorized strength of 22,900 soldiers and airmen.*  
4     *Since 2001 more than 38,000 soldiers and airmen have served*  
5     *with distinction overseas; and*

6     *WHEREAS, Nearly every state National Guard participates in*  
7     *the National Guard State Partnership Program, also known as*  
8     *SPP, which helps partner nations to prevent failed states, improve*  
9     *capabilities to protect citizens, and create stable regions; and*

10    *WHEREAS, The California-Ukraine National Guard Partnership*  
11    *is one of 65 National Guard State Partnership Programs (also*  
12    ~~*known as SPP). The California-Ukraine National Guard Partnership*~~  
13    *and this partnership was formed in 1993, just two years after*  
14    *Ukraine earned its independence from the Soviet Union; and*

15    *WHEREAS, The State of California's partnership with Ukraine*  
16    *is among the most important and progressive partnerships in*  
17    *Europe. The California National Guard has actively trained with*  
18    *the Armed Forces of Ukraine to reinforce military respect for*  
19    *civilian control and rule of law while improving the*  
20    *professionalism of military personnel from both Ukraine and the*  
21    *State of California. Thanks to its strategic location, size, and*

1 population, Ukraine has the capacity to be one of the most  
2 influential countries in the region; and

3 WHEREAS, Prior to our strategic relationship, the Armed Forces  
4 of Ukraine were in desperate need of restructuring, modernization  
5 of forces, and information sharing. Ukraine needed the tools to  
6 learn how to build a consensus among civilian populations,  
7 analytical methods for achieving their goals, and how to become  
8 a diplomatic leader in its ~~region. Ukraine is now putting that~~  
9 ~~framework to the test, and that is thanks to the support of the~~  
10 ~~California National Guard; region; and~~

11 ~~WHEREAS, As the current political and military situation~~  
12 ~~escalates in Ukraine, the partnership between Ukraine and the~~  
13 ~~California National Guard becomes even more critical. Through~~

14 *WHEREAS, Through* the collaboration, California Guardsmen  
15 have addressed a broad range of social, economic, military, and  
16 political issues in Ukraine. The California National Guard has  
17 worked to give Ukrainian armed forces the tools to help secure  
18 their borders, provide emergency response training, and other  
19 training to large, diverse agencies in Ukraine; and

20 WHEREAS, Ukrainian military members have traveled to  
21 California to participate in disaster-relief exercises with the  
22 California National Guard and California Guardsmen have been  
23 deployed to Ukraine for antiterror exercises. Currently, the focus  
24 of the California-Ukraine National Guard Partnership is on English  
25 language training, strategic airlift collaboration, human resources  
26 and personnel management, humanitarian assistance, development  
27 of the European Union Battle ~~Group, as well as how to best~~  
28 ~~leverage relationships with neighboring countries; Group; and~~

29 ~~WHEREAS, As the current conflict in Ukraine becomes more~~  
30 ~~dire, it is important to reflect on the Ukraine's military and political~~  
31 ~~framework. Over the last several months, Ukraine's borders have~~  
32 ~~shifted, political leadership has changed, and civil unrest has~~  
33 ~~ignited. It is the hope that the tools that the California National~~  
34 ~~Guard has provided Ukraine remain useful, and that the safety and~~  
35 ~~security of Ukraine be restored; now, therefore, be it~~

36 *WHEREAS, The California-Ukraine National Guard partnership*  
37 *can be a point of pride for the almost 100,000 Californian citizens*  
38 *of Ukrainian origin; now, therefore, be it*

39 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, That the*  
40 *Assembly proclaims its support for the California National Guard*

1 and the California-Ukraine National Guard Partnership; and be it  
2 further  
3 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly shall transmit  
4 copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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